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NORTHUMBERLAND.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE:

Printed by G. F. Laybourne & Co. Ltd., 20 to 28, Stowell Street.

1938.

GOSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT

NORTHUMBERLAND.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(W. L. M. GABRIEL, M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.)

(RESIGNED 30.9.37.)

(W. H. DICKINSON, M.D., M.R.C.P.Edin., D.P.H.)

(APPOINTED 1.10.37.)

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.



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Gosforth Urban District Council.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health FOR THE YEAR 1937.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1937 on the work of the Health Department.

The area of the District is	.....	.....	.....	1,739 acres.
Population, Census 1921	.....	.....	.....	15,790
Population, Census 1931	.....	.....	.....	18,040
Estimated mid-year population 1937	.....	.....	.....	19,840
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1937	.....	.....	.....	5,858
Rateable Value	.....	.....	.....	£183,093
Sum represented by a penny rate	.....	.....	.....	£697

The area is almost entirely residential in character and has no industries which have any special influence on public health.

The following is an extract from the Vital Statistics for the year :—

		TOTAL.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	256	118	138	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the resident popu- lation, 12·9
	Illegitimate	6	2	4	
Still Births	.....	9	2	7	Rate per 1,000 total births, 34·7,

	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Deaths	227	113	114	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 11·4.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy
and Childbirth :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
From Sepsis	0	Nil.
From Other Causes	0	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	42·9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	39·06
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	166·6
Deaths from Measles—all ages	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough—all ages	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea—under 2 years of age	1

It is worthy of note that the death rate of infants under one year of age is considerably reduced. In 1936 the rate was 76·9 and for 1937 is only 42·9 per thousand.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Table I. shows the Vital Statistics of the District as compared with those of England and Wales, London and 125 County Boroughs and 148 Smaller Towns.

TABLE I.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS, 1937.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Ty- phoid Fevers	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total deaths under 1 yr.
England and Wales	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	5.8	58
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, includ- ing London	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	7.9	62
148 Smaller Towns (Esti- mated Resident Popu- lations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	3.2	55
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	12.0	60
Gosforth	12.9	0.45	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.49	0.25	3.9	42

Table II. gives a comparison of the Vital Statistics of the District for the past 10 years.

TABLE II.

YEAR.	POPULATION ESTIMATED TO MIDDLE OF EACH YEAR.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED OF PERSONS BELONGING TO DISTRICT.			
				UNDER 1 YEAR.		AT ALL AGES.	
		Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop'tion.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop'tion.
1928	19,000	234	12.3	12	51.2	147	7.7
1929	19,000	208	10.9	14	67.3	185	9.7
1930	19,000	187	9.8	6	32.0	157	8.2
1931	18,220	192	10.6	15	78.08	199	11.0
1932	18,220	231	12.6	12	51.9	175	9.6
1933	18,290	216	11.8	6	27.7	183	10.27
1934	18,390	210	11.4	10	47.6	175	9.51
1935	19,000	217	11.4	16	73.5	187	9.8
1936	19,330	247	12.7	19	76.9	206	10.6
1937	19,840	256	12.9	11	42.9	227	11.4

Deaths.

Table III. shews the causes of death of residents belonging to the District as registered during 1937. The table is corrected for outward and inward transfers.

TABLE III.

**Causes of Death in Gosforth Urban District
during the Year 1937.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.					M.	F.	TOTAL.
ALL CAUSES					113	114	227
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				—	—	—
2.	Measles				—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever				—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough				1	—	1
5.	Diphtheria				—	—	—
6.	Influenza				5	2	7
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica				—	1	1
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever				—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system				10	3	13
10.	Other Tuberculous diseases				1	2	3
11.	Syphilis				—	1	1
12.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis				1	—	1
13.	Cancer, Malignant disease				17	17	34
14.	Diabetes				—	1	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.				1	1	2
16.	Heart disease				27	43	70
17.	Aneurysm				1	—	1
18.	Other circulatory diseases				6	12	18
19.	Bronchitis				3	4	7
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)				8	3	11
21.	Other respiratory diseases				—	1	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer				2	—	2
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)				1	—	1
24.	Appendicitis				1	1	2
25.	Cirrhosis of the liver				2	—	2
26.	Other diseases of the liver, etc.				—	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases				5	3	8
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis				2	3	5
29.	Puerperal sepsis				—	—	—
30.	Other puerperal causes				—	—	—
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.				2	5	7
32.	Senility				1	1	2
33.	Suicide				—	—	—
34.	Other violence				2	3	5
35.	Other defined diseases				13	7	20
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown				1	—	1

The following statement shews the ages at death :—

At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards
227	11	1	1	2	11	22	65	114

Births.

During the year 256 births have been registered giving an Annual Rate of 12.9 as compared with 12.7 for the year 1936.

Infant Mortality.

The total of 11 infant deaths gives an infant mortality rate of 42.9 per 1,000, compared with 76.9 for the year 1936.

The ages at death were as follows :—

Under 1 month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.
8	0	2	1	0

Causes of Death.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks.	2—4 weeks.	Total under 4 wks.	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—12 mths.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Enteritis	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2
Congenital Malformations	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	3
TOTALS	7	—	1	8	—	2	1	11

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Staff of Health Department.

Medical Officer of Health *W. L. M. Gabriel, M.B.,
Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Resigned 30-9-37.

*W. H. Dickinson, M.D.,
M.R.C.P.Edin., D.P.H.
Appointed 1-10-37.

Medical Officer, of Health,
Child Welfare *H. Glen Davison, M.D.

Dental Surgeon, Welfare Centre *A. M. Laing, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of
Workshops, Superintendent of
the Collection and Disposal of
House Refuse Thos. B. Bennett, C.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector J. Liddle, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitors M. Dickinson, Health
Visitor's Diploma.
E. M. Howarth, Health
Visitor's Diploma.

* Employed part-time by this Authority.

Laboratory and Ambulance Facilities, Treatment Centres, Etc.

The information required in this section has been set out in previous reports the only important change being in connection with the facilities for the treatment of Venereal Diseases.

On August 30th, 1937, the Venereal Diseases Clinic was transferred to a new Clinic maintained by a Joint Committee of the County Councils of Durham and Northumberland and the County Borough Councils of Gateshead and Newcastle upon Tyne, in the grounds of the **Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4.**

The Clinic is open every day including Sunday for treatment (both sexes) and every weekday for consultations.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

This Section is dealt with under the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Housing.

This Section is dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

This Section is dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

(a) *Diphtheria Immunisation*.—In addition to immunisation carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, a scheme was brought into force in the autumn of 1936 under which immunisation of children up to the age at which they leave school is undertaken by their own family medical practitioner, the cost being borne by the Urban District Council.

Under this scheme, during the year 1937, 119 children were immunised. Taking into account the children immunised under the Welfare Centre Scheme, the total number of children dealt with during the year was 176.

(b) *Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis)*.—Table IV. shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year.

TABLE IV.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED—AT ALL AGES—YEARS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1—2 years.	2—3 years.	3—4 years.	4—5 years.	5—10 years.	10—15 years.	15—20 years.	20—35 years.	35—45 years.	45—65 years & on.	R'moved to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	51	0	0	2	4	3	19	10	7	5	1	0	47	0
Diphtheria	25	0	0	1	1	2	9	4	1	6	0	1	23	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia (all forms)	52	2	0	2	2	1	3	1	5	12	4	20	0	11
Erysipelas	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	0	0
Chickenpox	35	1	2	2	2	2	19	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ophthalmia N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Para Typhoid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	178	3	2	9	9	8	50	24	13	24	6	30	70	12

(c) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*. None notified during the year.

(d) *Tuberculosis*. 18 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 14 being pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary.

The following Table shows the age distribution of the new cases and also that of the deaths of persons certified to be due to Tuberculosis :—

TABLE V.
TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during the Year 1937.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 years								
1 „				1				1
5 „								
10 „	1							
15 „			1			1		
20 „		2		1	1	1		
25 „					1			
35 „	2				1			
45 „	2				1			
55 „	3	3			3			
65 and upwards	1		1		1		1	
TOTALS	9	5	2	2	8	2	1	1

There were 4 non-notified Tuberculosis deaths.

During the year the official register was carefully revised and it was found possible to remove 51 names for various reasons, e.g. recovery, removal to another district, or death ; at the close of the year there were according to the records of the Department, 49 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 19 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis resident in the district, (two being transfers from the County of Northumberland).

FOOD POISONING.

On June 12th, all five members of a household partook of some slices of cooked pork purchased the same day and on the following day three of the five were seized with abdominal pains, vomiting and diarrhoea. The practitioner in attendance sent a specimen

of the faeces of one of these patients to the County Laboratory on June 17th and an organism of the Salmonella group, which is associated with food poisoning, was isolated.

Other similar cases having been reported, all the practitioners were circularised and it was found that a considerable number of cases of diarrhoea had occurred after the consumption of pork, all purchased from one shop in Gosforth.

The entire existing stock was surrendered and destroyed, all implements and dishes were sterilised and the premises and refrigerator thoroughly cleansed; in addition the shopkeeper and two members of his household who were found to be harbouring the germs were warned that they must take no part in the handling or preparation of foodstuffs and were advised to place themselves under the supervision of the family doctor.

No further cases of Enteritis were reported after June 28th, and on July 8th, the bacteriological reports in respect of the shopkeeper and his household were negative; further specimens were examined.

The assistance provided by the County Council Laboratory was invaluable; in all 36 specimens were examined:—22 of faeces of which 13 were positive; 5 of blood, 1 of which was doubtfully positive; 1 each from a sandwich, a slice of uncooked pork, and a white pudding, all of which were positive; and 6 other single specimens from implements and other material in the shop, all of which were negative.

The prompt detection of the source of infection, the destruction of the stock-in-trade and thorough cleansing of the premises, knives, dishes, etc. stopped the epidemic at once.

In all, approximately 100 cases of enteritis were notified—there were no deaths; the type of disease was not severe and rapid recovery was the rule.

An interesting feature is that although all the material found to be contaminated (sandwiches, slices of meat and white puddings) were pork products, the offending organism was identified with the collaboration of the Ministry of Health Laboratory, as one of the

food poisoning group normally associated with beef (*Salmonella Morbificans Bovis*).

(e) *Bacteriological Examinations.* Facilities for laboratory diagnosis are provided by the Northumberland County Council.

The following specimens have been submitted for examination during the year :—

	TOTAL.		POSITIVE.		NEGATIVE.
Sputa for B. Tuberculosis	63	.....	3	.....	60
Tissue and bone from Knee for Tuberculosis	 1	.....	1	.....	—
Faeces for Organisms	 6	.....	2	.....	4
Sera for Agglutination	 4	.....	1	.....	3
Swabs for Diphtheria	 164	.....	23	.....	141
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	 22	.....	6	.....	16
Pus for Organisms	3	.....	2	.....	1

Food Poisoning.

Faeces	 22	.....	13	.....	9
Blood, Pork Sandwich, Slice of Uncooked Pork, white pudding and specimens from implements and other material in the shop	14	.....	4	.....	10
	299	.....	55	.....	244
Milk Samples	40				
TOTAL	339				

(f) *Disinfection.* During the year the following work of disinfection has been carried out :—

Visits for the purpose of enquiry and disinfection	190
Number of times bedding, etc., has been removed for steam disinfection	 60

(g) *Pneumonia.* There were no patients removed to the Newcastle General Hospital during the year, for treatment under the Council's scheme for the treatment of cases of Pneumonia.

Women's Welfare Clinic (Birth Control).

During March, 1937, a scheme was brought into force whereby the Council are prepared to pay a fee not exceeding 10s. 6d. to the Women's Welfare Clinic (Birth Control), 24, Shieldfield Green, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in respect of each married woman in necessitous circumstances who applied for Birth Control facilities, and in whose case it is certified by a medical practitioner that further pregnancies would be detrimental to health.

All applications for assistance are referred by the patient's medical practitioner, to me at this office.

During the year 8 patients were recommended for treatment, but only 5 attended the clinic.

The expenditure for the year was £2. 12s. 6d.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories :— (including Factory Laundries)	0	0	0
Workshops :— (including Workshop Laundries)	21	5	0
Workplaces :— (Other than Outworkers premises)	0	0	0
TOTAL	21	5	0

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage to floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances :—	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation { (Insufficient)	—	—	—	—
{ (Unsuitable or defective)	3	3	—	—
{ (Not separate for sexes)	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory & Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s.101)	1	1	—	—
Other Offences :— (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories & Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	8	8	—	—

Number of Workshops and Workplaces on Register and Occupations carried on therein :—

Bakers and Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	11
Builders and Joiners and Cabinet Makers	.....			11
Monumental Works	.....	.....	.....	2
Welders and Smiths	.....	.....	.....	2
Garages	.....	.....	.....	10
Electricians and Plumbers	.....	.....	.....	6
Dressmakers	.....	.....	.....	3
Coal Depots	.....	.....	.....	2
Laundries	.....	.....	.....	2
Biscuit Packers	.....	.....	.....	2
			-----	51

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Notification of Births Act.

NOTIFIED BY.	LIVE BIRTHS.	STILL BIRTHS.	TOTAL.
Doctors and Parents	13	2	15
Midwives	122	3	125
Nursing Homes and Maternity Hospitals	92	3	95
TOTALS	227	8	235

Figures adjusted for inward and outward transfers.

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors during the year :—

First visits <i>re</i> births	211
First visits <i>re</i> still births	5
First visits to children removed to Gosforth ...	28
Re-visits to children	363
Visits to children 1-5 years of age	828
First visits to expectant mothers	85
Re-visits to expectant mothers	146
Special visits	200

TOTAL	1866
-------------	------

Number of simple dressings attended to ...	834
Number of interviews in Office	880
Dried Milk, etc., sold at cost price	£853 12s. 6d.
Dried Milk, etc., given free	£94 9s. 2d.

Infant Life Protection. (Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, Part 5).

The Health Visitor is the Inspector under this Act. There were no children registered during the year.

Child Welfare Centre and Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following statements give details of the work of the Child Welfare Centre and Ante-Natal Clinic during the year :—

CHILD WELFARE—1937.

MONTH.	INDIVIDUAL NEW CHILDREN		TOTAL.	TOTAL ATTENDANCES.		TOTAL.	MEDICAL CONSULTA- TIONS.
	Under 1 year.	1-5 years.		Under 1 year.	1-5 years.		
January	19	1	20	273	190	463	70
February	20	7	27	336	211	547	109
March	19	6	25	340	209	549	139
April	24	6	30	446	245	691	158
May	15	6	21	323	166	489	129
June	30	4	34	444	287	731	178
July	20	5	25	446	272	718	138
August	32	7	39	411	208	619	136
September	20	7	27	469	266	735	162
October	18	9	27	590	294	884	177
November	16	8	24	415	251	666	125
December	15	3	18	410	222	632	165
TOTAL	248	69	317	4903	2821	7724	1687

Separate individuals who attended	....	932	Average attendance per week	....	....	160.91
	....		Average attendance per session	....	....	53.63
			Average No. of consultations per week	....	....	35.14
			Average No. of consultations per session	....	....	17.57
			No. of Child Welfare sessions during the year	....	....	145

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SESSIONS, 1937.

Month.	Ante-Natal 1st Visits.	Post-Natal 1st Visits.	Total Attendances.
January	25	2	62
February	13	11	69
March	8	2	61
April	18	7	71
May	11	7	74
June	8	6	67
July	17	6	59
August	8	8	50
September	9	4	53
October	15	6	60
November	12	3	60
December	18	7	67
TOTAL	162	69	753

No. of Ante-Natal sessions during the year 82
Average attendance per session 9.18

Under the Council's Scheme it is possible for a practitioner to obtain the services of a consulting obstetrician in any maternity case, whether ante-natal, or intra or post-natal. The arrangements also provide for the hospital accommodation of any such patients where the circumstances make it desirable or necessary.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths recorded during the year.

Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment.

	FROM CENTRE.	PRIVATE.	TOTAL.
Number of cases			
attending	47	18	65
Number of exposures	697	156	853
Amount received	—	£12 13s. 0d.	

Gosforth Welfare Children's Dental Clinic.

During the year a Dental Surgeon appointed by the Council has conducted a clinic once a fortnight.

There have been 27 sessions with an average attendance of

8, including a number of ante-natal cases for urgent treatment and advice. Eleven of the sessions have been devoted to cases requiring multiple extractions under a general anaesthetic and 87 children have had an anaesthetic administered by Dr. Glen Davison. A few patients requiring immediate treatment for the relief of pain have been attended to at the Dentist's own surgery.

Immunisation Sessions.

No. of Sessions.	No. of Children.	No. of Injections.
3	57	57

Sewing Meeting.

The average attendance 13.

Conclusion.

Although this report covers the whole of the year it is necessary for me to explain that I was only responsible for the supervision of the work of the Health Department during the last three months and this gives me an opportunity to pay a tribute to my predecessor.

Dr. Gabriel had the work so well organised and his relations with the doctors practising in the district were so cordial that I found it very easy to take over the duties ; his untimely decease following so closely on his promotion, was a great loss to his numerous friends, public and private, and to the County Council.

Finally I would like to express my appreciation of the assistance rendered by Mr. Bennett and the other officials of the Health Department and Dr. Glen Davison and Miss Dickinson at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, especially in the early months of my tenure of office, and thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the way in which they have received my reports and recommendations and the very sympathetic encouragement which I have always received.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. DICKINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

DEAR SIR,

I have pleasure in submitting particulars of the work of my Department for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

Water Supply.

The whole of the District has a piped supply which is from the same source and comes through the same main pipes as that of the City of Newcastle upon Tyne. It is provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

No complaints have been received during the year as to the quality, and no tests have been made.

Rivers and Streams.

It has not been found necessary for any action to be taken with reference to the pollution of streams in the area during the year under review.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year ended 31st December 1937, 3,228 yards of Sewage Sewers and 1,519 yards of Surface Water Sewers have been laid in the District as follows :—

Oakfield Road	.....	.....	.....	.....	626	lin.	yds.
Newlands Road	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	„	„
Bridge Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	899	„	„
Westfield Drive and The Drive	.....	.....	.....	.....	213	„	„
Ridgewood Crescent	.....	.....	.....	.....	783	„	„
Ridgewood Gardens	.....	.....	.....	.....	148	„	„
Ridgewood Villas	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	„	„
Hunter's Road	.....	.....	.....	.....	170	„	„
Coxlodge Hall	.....	.....	.....	.....	360	„	„
Fernville Road	.....	.....	.....	.....	233	„	„
Elmfield Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	145	„	„
Shield Grove	.....	.....	.....	.....	435	„	„
Low Gosforth House	.....	.....	.....	.....	270	„	„
Briarwood Avenue	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	„	„
Hollywood Avenue	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	„	„
Graham Park Road	.....	.....	.....	.....	198	„	„
TOTAL					4,747	„	„

Closet Accommodation.

There are in the District 5912 houses with water-closet accommodation. There are also 14 houses with combined privies and ashpits, and two with pail-closets.

Privies and ashpits for ten houses were abolished during the year.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

The quantity of house refuse collected in the District during the year under review was 8711 tons. Of this number 681 tons were taken to the North Depot for pulverization or incineration, 726 to farms, gardens, etc., 4894 to Harewood Road tip and 2410 to Brunton Quarry tip.

The whole of the District is scavenged by the Council's own men and motor wagons. One hundred and fifty-five visits of inspection and supervision have been made.

House refuse is collected from moveable dustbins, once, twice

or three times per week, as the circumstances of the area require. Dry ashpits are emptied once every four weeks, and combined privies and ashpits every two or three weeks. The average amount of refuse collected per annum was 1.40 tons from each house and shop and 439 tons for each 1000 of the population.

Inspections made.

The total number of sanitary and housing inspections which have been made during the year is, 2,829. There were in addition 561 inspections of drains of new buildings, 190 visits for the purpose of enquiry and disinfection after infectious diseases, 843 visits to ascertain if nuisances had been abated, or to supervise work in progress, and 8 visits with reference to the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

Notices Served for the Abatement of Nuisances, etc.

During the year 1937, 300 informal notices and 4 Statutory Notices have been served. Many letters have also been sent out requesting the conversion of dry ashpits, etc. A detailed statement with reference to the inspections made and notices served will be found in Table 1.

Shops Act, 1934.

61 inspections were made to ascertain if the requirements of Section 10 of this Act were being carried out and 20 contraventions were found. In 9 instances the matters in default had been remedied at the end of the year and in the remaining 11, they were receiving attention.

Smoke Abatement.

Gosforth being mainly of a residential character, complaints of smoke nuisances are rare. Four instances occurred where it was found necessary to take action, one of which had not been satisfactorily dealt with at the end of the year.

Swimming Baths or Pools.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in this area.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

There were on the Register at the end of the year the names of four cow-keepers, who are also retailers of milk. There are also 15 purveyors of milk whose premises are within the District, and 34 whose premises are outside the District.

The number of dairy cows kept in the area is about 100.

It was necessary to serve 3 notices during the year on cowkeepers and purveyors of milk with respect to the condition of their premises and utensils and the contravention of the Milk and Dairies Act and Orders. All the notices had been complied with at the end of the year.

Forty samples of milk have been collected for Examination and the results are as follows :—

Test Used.	Grade of Milk.	Samples Examined.	Found.	
			Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Coliform	Ungraded.	36	17	19
do.	Accredited.	3	3	0
do.	" T.T."	1	1	0
Methylene Blue Reduction	Ungraded.	36	14	22
do.	Accredited.	3	2	1
do.	" T.T."	1	1	0

Licences have been issued to retailers to sell graded milk in Gosforth as follows :—

To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	.....	.....	6
„ „ Accredited Milk	.....	.....	1
„ „ Pasteurised Milk	.....	.....	6

(b) Slaughter Houses, Retail Meat Shops and Food Stores.

There are two private slaughter houses and 62 retail meat shops in the District. They are periodically inspected and it was found necessary to issue three notices during the year. The structural condition of the premises is fairly satisfactory.

Approximately 1169 sheep, 186 cattle and 92 calves were slaughtered in this area during the year.

The occupiers of the slaughter houses have regular times each week for slaughtering and inspections are made both at these and at other times.

Thirty-eight inspections were made at slaughter-houses during the year, and slaughtering was in progress during twenty-five of these inspections.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding Cows).	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed, if known	186	0	92	1,169	0
Number inspected	33 (including calves)	0	0	78	0
All Diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.03%	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuberculosis Only—					
Whole carcasses condemned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

There is no meat marketing scheme in operation in this district.

(c) **Adulteration, etc., of Food.** This is controlled by the County Council.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.** Chemical examinations are carried out by the Public Analyst in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Bacteriological Examinations at the County Laboratory at Newburn-on-Tyne.

(e) **Nutrition.** There has been no action taken with regard to this matter.

(f) **Shellfish (Molluscan).** There are no shellfish beds or layings in this district.

Offensive Trades.

The Offensive Trades established in the district are six fried fish purveyors. The premises and utensils have been kept in a fairly satisfactory state of cleanliness during the year. Of the four contraventions found, three were remedied without the service of informal notices. One informal notice was served, and complied with without delay.

Houses let in Lodgings, Underground Sleeping Rooms, Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

There are no houses let in lodgings or underground sleeping rooms in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

This area is fairly free from this pest. Houses where bed bugs are known or suspected to exist are dealt with by a vigorous use of Zaldecide which is supplied free to householders in the district.

This method was also applied where necessary during the removal of household effects from slum clearance areas to new houses.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured and only a very small quantity is used by one upholsterer, who buys the material from a wholesale dealer in Newcastle upon Tyne under a guarantee as to cleanliness. No tests have been made during the year.

Bake-houses.

There are eleven retail bake-houses in the district which are structurally in a fairly satisfactory condition.

It has been necessary during the year to serve two informal notices with respect to structural defects and three with respect to cleanliness. All the notices had been complied with at the end of the year.

HOUSING.

The total number of houses in the District is 5928 and of these about 2814 are of a type suitable for persons of the working classes. There were 70 unoccupied houses in the district at the end of the year.

Two hundred and sixty houses were erected during the year, ninety-four by the Council and one hundred and sixty-six by private builders.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.....	305
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	305
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	.....	54
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	54
(3) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	46
(4) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.....	251

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers				221
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
(Notices served during 1936).

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 1

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders made	3
(during the year 1936)	

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

E. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

(1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	25
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	25
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	187
(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	21
(3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	101
(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases	619

TABLE No. I.

District : GOSFORTH. Population : 19,840. Inspector : THOS. B. BENNETT.		Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-laws.	Number outstanding from previous year.	Total.	Number of defects or con- traventions remedied after interview, letter or informal notice.	Number of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	In progress or being dealt with.	Legal Proceedings
Housing	Structural defects	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	...
	Defective Food-store ...		111	29	140	128	1	1	11	...
	Dampness ...	305	2	7	9	9	...	...	...	...
	Overcrowding ...		22	3	25	14	...	...	11	...
	Other Nuisances or Defects....		7	...	7	7	...	...	...	...
			100	17	117	109	...	...	8	...
Water Supply { Insufficient ... Unsatisfactory ...		4	4	0	4	4	...	...	...	...
Drainage { Choked ... Defective ...		29 32	22 26	... 5	22 31	22 28	...	...	... 3	...
Yards and { Insufficient ... Sanitary { Foul ...		2,161	33 17	1 ...	34 17	33 17	...	...	1 ...	...
Conveniences { Defective ...			155	12	167	152	3	3	12	...
Shops, Food-stores, &c. ...		71	20	1	21	9	...	...	12	...
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops		24	3	1	4	3	...	...	1	...
Slaughter Houses ...		41	4	...	4	4	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades ...		6	4	...	4	4	...	...	...	...
Workshops, and Workplaces		21	5	3	8	8	...	...	...	...
Keeping of Animals		3	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Eradication of Bed Bugs		7	7	...	7	7	...	...	...	...
Rats and Mice Destruction Act		8	2	3	5	4	...	...	1	...
Offensive accumulations		23	6	...	6	6	...	...	...	...
Smoke Nuisances		18	4	...	4	4	...	...	...	...
Unclassified minor nuisances		77	19	1	20	17	...	...	3	...
TOTAL		2,830	575	83	658	591	4	4	63	...

TABLE II.

This table gives an abstract of some of the work carried out in connection with occupied dwelling houses.

Length in yards of defective drains removed	.....	.....	329
Length in yards of new drains constructed	.....	.....	545
Defective gullies removed	.....	.....	13
New trapped gullies provided	.....	.....	30
Combined privies and ashpits abolished and replaced by water closets	.....	.....	1
Pail closets abolished and replaced by water closets	.....	.....	—
New water closets provided	.....	.....	10
Ashpits removed and dust bins provided	.....	.....	6
Number of buildings at which drains have been tested	.....	.....	36
Number of tests made	.....	.....	43
New ashbins provided	.....	.....	135

TABLE III.

The work in connection with the drains of new buildings will be found in the following table :—

Number of buildings at which drains have been tested	264
Number of tests made	561
Length in yards of drains tested	3843

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THOS. B. BENNETT, C.R.S.I.,

Sanitary Inspector.

